
 VERMONT		
DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES Child Care Financial Assistance Manual		
Chapter:	CIS (Children's Integrated Services)	
Subject:	Special Health Needs (Child)	
Approved:	Reeva Sullivan Murphy, M. Ed., Deputy Commissioner	Effective: 09/04/2016
Regulation:	Service Need - II B 1	

## PURPOSE

To support families in accessing and supporting stable and safe child care for their children.

## REGULATION

Established when the primary caretaker(s) can demonstrate that his/her child has a significant health or specialized developmental need as documented by a licensed physician and/or licensed psychologist, or by the assessment determining eligibility for Special Education or Early Intervention Services that includes child care as part of the child's developmental plan.

## POLICY

Child Development Division may offer financial assistance in paying for child care to families with children who are determined to have special health needs. Families accessing the Child Care Financial Assistance Program under the service need of Special Health Needs-Child must meet income guidelines on the sliding fee scale and may therefore be assigned a share of the reimbursement paid by CDD to the Child Care provider.

## PROCEDURES

- The primary caretaker must submit a Child Care Financial Assistance Application and the child's special health need status is determined and documented by one of the following:
  1. Child with Special Health Need Child Care Financial Assistance Required – Supplemental Documentation Form completed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or a licensed psychologist and a Children's Integrated Services One Plan identifying the support the child needs to be successful within the early childhood setting
  2. A Special Education or Early Intervention Assessment signed by a qualified professional that identifies child care as part of the child's CIS One Plan, Individual Education Plan (IEP), Coordinated Services Plan (CSP) or Integrated Family Services Plan (IFSP). The plan must identify supports the child needs in order to be successful within the early childhood or school-aged out-of-school-time care setting.
- This service need is child specific and authorization for child care does not include sibling(s) unless documentation of a special health care need is verified for an authorized sibling. If a child meets the eligibility criteria of child with special health needs, then the service need of the parents/caretakers is not a consideration.
- Child care hours are based on the days/hours per week documented in one of the following: Special Health Need Supplemental Form, CIS One Plan, Individual Education Plan, Coordinated Services Plan, or Integrated Family Services Plan.
- Eligibility for child care services on the basis of SHC–Child will be re-determined annually. No interruption of services will occur based upon a temporary (up to 3 months) change in special health needs status. Following the 3-month period, if the client is unable to secure a new service need, their eligibility may be closed. All documentation is updated at the time of re-determination, even if the child's condition is considered permanent.